

RENTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

May 11, 1998 Council Chambers
Monday, 7:30 p.m. Municipal Building

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jesse Tanner led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

ROLL CALL OF COUNCILMEMBERS

BOB EDWARDS, Council President; TONI NELSON; KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER; DAN CLAWSON; KING PARKER; TIMOTHY SCHLITZER; RANDY CORMAN.

CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

JESSE TANNER, Mayor; LAWRENCE J. WARREN, City Attorney; BRENDA FRITSVOLD, Deputy City Clerk; GREGG ZIMMERMAN, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator; TOM BOYNS, Property Services Supervisor; BETTY NOKES, Economic Development Director; ROSS HATHAWAY, Civil Engineer; COMMANDER KEVIN MILOSEVICH, Police Department.

PRESS

Sue Kidd, *South County Journal*

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 4, 1998, AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

PROCLAMATION Honorary Citizen of Renton, John Keister of *Almost Live*

A proclamation by Mayor Tanner was read bestowing upon John Keister, host of the television show *Almost Live*, the rank of Honorary Citizen of Renton with the rights and privileges thereunto pertaining. The proclamation further thanked Mr. Keister for his admirable efforts in assisting the City of Renton with its new marketing campaign to diversify the Renton community.

Mayor Tanner presented the proclamation to Mr. Keister, thanking him for promoting the City of Renton. Describing his long history with Renton, Mr. Keister said that he would cherish the certificate and display it prominently.

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE PROCLAMATION AS READ. CARRIED.

PROCLAMATION American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Sales Days, May 15- 26, 1998

A proclamation by Mayor Tanner was read declaring the days of May 15 through 26, 1998, to be American Legion Poppy Sales Days in the City of Renton, and urging Renton citizens to recognize the merits of this cause by contributing to its support through the donation of funds for poppies as symbols of appreciation for the sacrifices of our nation's honored dead.

Lorna Taylor accepted the proclamation on behalf of the

American Legion, explaining that every cent raised by poppy sales is used to aid veterans in the local area.

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE PROCLAMATION AS READ. CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING

Vacation Olympia Ave NE,
Lakeridge
Development/VAC-98-001

This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Tanner opened the public hearing to consider a petition to vacate a portion of Olympia Ave. NE from NE 33rd St. north of NE 21st St. (Lakeridge Development/VAC-98-001).

Tom Boyns, Property Services Supervisor, explained that the petitioner seeks this vacation to correct an oversight at the time of platting the Honey Creek Ridge Division III, which left an unusual triangular right-of-way. Olympia Ave. NE has since been constructed adjacent to the right-of-way. He noted there are no City utilities within the right-of-way, however, Puget Sound Energy has requested time to obtain an easement for their existing underground facilities in this location.

Continuing, Mr. Boyns said following normal vacation procedures would landlock Lot 1 in the adjacent plat. As a solution, the petitioner has agreed to transfer a sufficient portion of the vacated right-of-way to the owner of Lot 1 to ensure adequate access to Olympia Ave. NE. Mr. Boyns added that the owner of Lot 1 has agreed to participate in a lot line adjustment giving the property 35 feet of frontage on Olympia Ave. NE.

Staff and the Board of Public Works recommended that the vacation be granted, waiving the appraisal and costs, subject to the following conditions:

- * The petitioner file a lot line adjustment allowing adequate frontage along Olympia Ave. NE to meet building code as a buildable lot, and record the ordinance concurrently with the lot line adjustment when approved.
- * The City retain an easement over the northwesterly fifty feet of the property being vacated for the City's trail system.

Responding to Councilman Schlitzer, Mr. Boyns said that the developer and the owner of Lot 1 should be able to grant an easement for the underground facilities concurrently with filing for the lot line adjustment.

In response to Councilman Corman, Mr. Boyns said that the fifty foot easement the City plans to retain is more than adequate for a trail. He explained that the easement will be nonexclusive which means it cannot block access to Lot 1. The future owner of Lot 1 will be made aware of the possibility that a trail may be constructed.

Audience comment was invited.

Wayne Jones, PO Box 146, Renton, 98057, president of Lakeridge Development, Inc., clarified that he had executed the Puget Power easement documents requested of him for Lots 2 and 3.

There being no further audience comment, it was **MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.**

In response to Councilman Parker, Mr. Boyns said that a lot line adjustment can take between three weeks to six months to process, depending on the amount of survey work required.

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL APPROVE THE VACATION AS REQUESTED, SUBJECT TO THE RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS. CARRIED.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Deputy City Clerk Brenda Fritsvold reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City's recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 1998 and beyond. Items noted included:

- * Thursday, May 7th, was the start date for the WSDOT SR-900 overlay project on Bronson Way N. and Mill Ave. S. On April 25th and 26th, a limited hydroplane race took place at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park as a result of a joint effort by the promoter, the City's Recreation Division and Police and Fire Departments, and the Mercer Island Marine patrol.
- * The Renton Police Department is sponsoring the 24th session of its Citizen's Academy, a program designed to educate Renton residents, local business merchants and employees about the operation of their local police department.

AUDIENCE COMMENT Citizen Comment Richter - City Volunteer Recognition, Put a Shine on Downtown Renton

Marge Richter, 300 Meadow Ave. N., Renton, 98055, announced that the volunteer's annual recognition event was a success. On another subject, she reported that despite the bad weather, the "Put a Shine on Downtown Renton" held on May 8th and 9th was successful. She thanked all participants, especially the students from Renton and Lindbergh high schools who volunteered their time.

Citizen Comment Maxwell - Sandwich-Board Advertising Signs

Alice Maxwell, 465 Renton Center Way SW, Renton, 98055, commented that she received a letter from the City's Code Enforcement Officer informing her that she is not allowed to use A-frame ("sandwich-board") signs to advertise her business. She stated that she has used professionally made A-frame signs for twenty-nine years and they are her most effective means of advertising. Ms. Maxwell noted that many businesses use sandwich-board signs to advertise and asked if all business were told to remove them.

Mayor Tanner stated that approximately 50 businesses received a letter relating to this type of violation as a result of one person's complaint.

Councilmember Keolker-Wheeler said that this item has already been referred to the Planning & Development Committee for discussion. Councilman Parker recommended that the penalty phase of this particular violation be temporarily rescinded while the matter is in committee.

City Attorney Lawrence J. Warren replied that it would be better to suspend the entire ordinance rather than just the penalty phase. He noted that the regulations would have to be suspended City-wide.

Moved by Parker, seconded by Clawson, Council suspend the ordinance relating to A-frame signs pending study.*

Councilmember Nelson was concerned that during the suspension of the ordinance, there could be an influx of improper signs displayed. She recommended that protection be retained only for currently existing signs.

Gregg Zimmerman, Planning/Building/Public Works Administrator stated that the City does not have an inventory of existing sandwich-board signs. He suggested instead establishing criteria such as where the signs can be placed and the type of material that must be used to make the signs.

Responding to Council inquiry, City Attorney Warren clarified that the City does not engage in selective enforcement, but complaint-driven enforcement has been found to be legal by the courts. He pointed out that the sign issue is complicated and it is difficult to institute legislation that satisfies everyone.

***SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY TO PREPARE A RESOLUTION SUSPENDING THE ORDINANCE RELATING TO A-FRAME SIGNS PENDING STUDY. CARRIED.**

Citizen Comment Anderson
- Sandwich-Board
Advertising Signs

Bruce Anderson, 101 Park Ave. N., Renton, 98055, asked if the violation notices were sent only to businesses in downtown Renton. He noted that many types of business such as real estate agencies, non-profit businesses and churches use this type of signage.

Mayor Tanner answered that the letters were sent to businesses in various areas of the City.

Citizen Comment
McCauley - Sandwich-
Board Advertising Signs

Kay McCauley, 505 Williams Ave. N., Renton, 98055, stated that the use of A-frame signs is very important for small businesses. Explaining that she has attended many meetings regarding signs, she asserted that it is vital for small businesses to attract people outside of the area to shop. Ms. McCauley commented that the sign advertising

the location of her business is placed strategically so that potential customers can find parking spaces as they are approaching her business because there are no parking spaces available once they pass it.

Citizen Comment Franklin -
Sandwich Board
Advertising Signs

Beverly Franklin, PO Box 685, Renton, 98057, said that as a small business owner, she believed that sandwich-board signs were necessary to let pedestrian traffic know where to find her business. Ms. Franklin asked that the City be more supportive of small businesses and suggested holding more workshops to discuss signage guidelines.

Mayor Tanner said that until this issue is resolved, the business owners should disregard the violation notices which were sent to them.

Councilman Corman was concerned that A-frame signs placed on sidewalks can generate sight obstruction problems for drivers. City Attorney Warren concurred this will be a consideration in whether a sign is allowed.

Councilmember Keolker-Wheeler asked that all individuals who spoke be notified of any future meetings regarding this issue.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion which follows the listing.

Appointment Library
Board

Mayor Jesse Tanner reappointed Judith Milligan, 427 Ferndale Ave. NE, Renton, 98056, to the Library Board for a five-year term expiring 6/01/2003. Council concur.

Appointment Park Board

Mayor Jesse Tanner reappointed Joan Moffatt, 3709 Meadow Ave. N., Renton, 98056, to the Park Board for a four-year term expiring 6/01/2002. Council concur.

EDNSP Automall
Expansion

Economic Development, Neighborhoods & Strategic Planning Department recommended expanding the area of the Automall to facilitate land assemblage for future dealerships, and to extend certain landscape standards, signage and right-of-way improvements to existing dealerships located near (but not currently within) the Automall. Refer to Planning & Development Committee.

Finance New City Hall
Energy-Efficient Lighting
Bond Issuance

Finance and Information Services Department and Community Services Department recommended installation of energy-efficient lighting at the new City Hall building to conserve energy, save on maintenance costs, and reduce glare. The \$272,000 expense will be funded through State-issued conservation bonds, which the City will repay over a ten-year period with the savings realized from reduced electrical costs. Refer to Finance Committee.

CAG 98-, Cedar River
Dredging, Dept. of Natural
Resources, et al.

Surface Water Utility Division requested approval of agreements with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and others for miscellaneous activities

associated with the Cedar River Section 205 Flood Damage Reduction project. Council concur. (See page 171 for resolution.)

**Lease Airport Ground
Lease Rate Changes**

Transportation Division recommended approval of twelve lease addendums for Renton Municipal Airport ground leases to reflect the new ground lease rate that was determined through arbitration. Council concur.

**Airport Metro Easement
for Sewer Line Installation
under Runway**

Transportation Division recommended approval of a construction easement with Metro for installation of the Bryn Mawr Sewer System Improvement project beneath the north end of the Airport runway and taxiways. Council concur.

MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER,
COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS
PRESENTED. CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS
Community Services
Committee

**Transportation Downtown
Transit Hub (Interim)
Restroom Facilities**

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report regarding temporary downtown comfort stations. Permanent comfort stations are being considered in conjunction with the various developments underway in the area, but until permanent facilities can be constructed, provision of portable comfort stations is a viable, interim solution.

Costs are estimated to be approximately three to four thousand dollars per year per unit (detailed cost research will be completed by May 15th). These costs include delivery, maintenance of approximately three to four times a week, and monthly lease. In the interim, these portable comfort stations could be funded from the Transit Program budget.

The Community Services Committee recommended that Council approve the lease of two portable comfort stations (male and female) for discreet placement in the downtown area. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Planning & Development
Committee

**Utility Utility Pole
Relocation (Main Ave S)**

Planning & Development Committee Chair Keolker-Wheeler presented a report regarding the utility pole relocation alignment on Main Ave. S. The Committee recommended that Council authorize the relocation of the Puget Sound Energy transmission line to a modified alternate route B. The modification is to remove one street light and replace it with two street lights at locations that allow lower wires and shorter poles. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

**Development Services
Optional DNS Process**

Planning & Development Committee Chair Keolker-Wheeler presented a report regarding the optional Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) process. The

Committee recommended approval of an amendment to the Environmental Ordinance (SEPA) to implement recent changes to the State administrative code regulations. The amendment will allow staff to apply an optional DNS to certain smaller projects, using the comment period of a notice of a project application for review of environmental issues and listing mitigation measures being considered. The ordinance would not compel staff to use the optional DNS process.

The Committee reported that it will continue consideration of other amendments to the Regulatory Reform Ordinance.

The Committee further recommended that the ordinance regarding this matter be presented for first reading. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED. (See page 172 for ordinance.)

Finance Committee
Finance Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claims Vouchers #158945 - 159392; two wire transfers in the total amount of \$3,161,489.96; approval of Payroll Vouchers #159510 - 159773; and 497 direct deposits in the total amount of \$1,285,952.29. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

Transportation Committee
Streets Burnett Ave N (5th to 6th) Temporary Closure

Transportation (Aviation) Committee Chair Schlitzer presented a report regarding the temporary closure of Burnett Ave. N. The King County Bryn Mawr Sanitary Sewer Extension is required to connect to the existing sanitary sewer interceptor near the intersection of N. 6th St. and Burnett Ave. N. A vault in excess of 14' x 14' and 20 feet deep is required to be constructed to accommodate the connection. The installation may require the street to be closed to general traffic for up to eight weeks to allow the construction of the vault, connection to the interceptor, installation of the pipe, and restoration of the roadway in a safe manner.

City staff have reviewed the request and have recommended approval with the following conditions:

Council concur with the requested eight week street closure of Burnett Ave. N. between N. 6th St. and N. 5th St. and adopt the resolution authorizing same. The contractor provide one week advance warning of the street closure by posting large signs along the travel route advising of the closure and detour routes. Further, the closure shall be published twice, one week apart in the local newspaper. Local, pedestrian and emergency access along Burnett Ave. N. be maintained or provided for through detour routes at all times.

* The approved traffic control plan shall be implemented and maintained by the contractor to the

satisfaction of the Transportation and Development Services Divisions.

MOVED BY SCHLITZER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED. (See page 172 for resolution.)

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were presented for reading and adoption:

Resolution #3325

CAG: 98-, Cedar River Dredging, Dept. of Natural Resources, et al.

A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into agreements with the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, King County, City of Seattle, Renton Housing Authority, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and any other governmental agencies, for the Renton Cedar River Section 205 Flood Control project real estate and construction. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY EDWARDS, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

Resolution #3326

Streets Burnett Ave N (5th to 6th) Temporary Closure

A resolution was read authorizing the temporary closure of Burnett Ave. N. between N. 5th and N. 6th Streets for utility replacement and road restoration. MOVED BY SCHLITZER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

The following ordinance was presented for first reading and referred to the Council meeting of 5/18/98 for second and final reading:

Development Services
Optional DNS Process

An ordinance was read amending Section 4-6-9 of Chapter 6, Environmental Ordinance (SEPA), of Title IV (Building Regulations), of City Code by adopting the optional DNS process by reference. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY EDWARDS, COUNCIL REFER THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ON 5/18/98. CARRIED.

The following ordinances were presented for second and final reading:

Ordinance #4721 Vacation
SW 16th/Monster Rd
(Schober, VAC-97-003)

An ordinance was read vacating a portion of SW 16th St. and Monster Rd. SW between SW Grady Way and SW Jackson St. (Schober, VAC-97-003). MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #4722
Development Services City
Code Title IV
Reorganization

An ordinance was read repealing the existing Title IV (Building Regulations) of City Code and adopting the reorganized Title IV (Development Regulations). MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #4723
Development Services City

An ordinance was read amending Title I (Administrative), Title II (Commissions and Boards), Title III (Departments),

Code Title IV
Reorganization

Title V (Business Regulations), Title VII (Fire Regulations), Title VIII (Health and Sanitation), and Title IX (Public Ways and Property) of City Code by incorporating Code language which was formerly located within Title IV (Building Regulations), and deleting certain Code sections which will now be located within Title IV. MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Ordinance #4724
Development Services
Electronic Msg Board
Signs for Auto Dealerships
(Automall Area)

An ordinance was read amending Chapter 20, Sign Code, of Title IV (Building Regulations) of City Code by allowing electronic message board signs for auto dealerships located within the Automall Area. MOVED BY EDWARDS, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS
Parks Hydroplane Race at
Gene Coulon Park

MOVED BY CORMAN, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL DIRECT THE ADMINISTRATION TO EXTEND AN INVITATION TO THE LIMITED HYDROPLANE RACE SPONSORS TO HOST ANOTHER RACE AT GENE COULON BEACH PARK.*

*FRIENDLY AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, ACCEPTED BY CORMAN, THE ADMINISTRATION ALSO FORWARD POSITIVE CITIZEN COMMENTS REGARDING THE RACE TO THE SPONSORS. MOTION CARRIED.

AUDIENCE COMMENT
Citizen Comment Gatto -
Benson Rd S Crosswalk

Dominic Gatto, 1425 S. Puget Dr. #N5, Renton, 98055, spoke regarding the sandwich-board advertising signs, commenting that small businesses need to advertise as much as possible to be able to compete with large stores. On another subject, he described how dangerous it is for Benson Elementary School students to cross Benson Rd. S. when travelling to and from school. He asked that a crosswalk or some type of traffic revision be implemented in that area to alleviate the danger.

Mayor Tanner stated that the administration will look into the matter.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CORMAN, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 9:03 p.m.

BRENDA FRITSVOLD, Deputy City Clerk

5/11/98